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Diversity isn't just an 'SNL' issue—  
it's also in the Chicago improv spotlight

# red eye

# SATURDAY NIGHT

Tuesday  
DECEMBER 17, 2013

★ FREE ★

A Chicago Tribune publication

pages 6-7

GETTY IMAGES

Antibacterial soap opera 3

That elusive Ventra switch 4

How Chicago is Yeezy? 18

# EAT

## HOLIDAY ROCK & ROLL

### Sofitel Chicago Water Tower

20 E. Chestnut St.  
312-324-4074

Sweeten your Tuesday with slices of Buche de Noel cake from 15 pastry chefs and vote for your favorite at this benefit for Share Our Strength which includes cocktails, savory bites and live music from Rod Tuffcurls and the Bench Press. 6-8 p.m. \$40. Tickets: [holidayrockandroll.eventbrite.com](http://holidayrockandroll.eventbrite.com).



## FEW AND NORTH SHORE HOLIDAY GALA

### Fountainhead

1970 W. Montrose Ave. 773-697-8204  
Meet the distillery owners over appetizers and a four-course dinner with craft cocktail pairings featuring butternut squash- and maple mousse-stuffed doughnut holes with a barrel-aged Sazerac cocktail, ginger lemon chicken scallopini with cranberry-lemon gin punch and more. 6 p.m. \$42.06. RSVP required: [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com).

# DRINK

## BAH HUMBUG! A SOUR CHRISTMAS

### Jerry's

1938 W. Division St. 773-235-1006  
Pucker up for 13 holiday and sour beers (\$5.50-\$9.50 each)—including Deschutes Jubelale, The Bruery Tart of Darkness and Jolly Pumpkin Noel de Calabaza—served with dark seasonal films and an appearance from Sour Santa. 6 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover. Advance RSVP required for optional Noel de Calabaza vertical flight (\$28.50): [jerrysjpnoelvertical.eventbrite.com](http://jerrysjpnoelvertical.eventbrite.com).

## 'HUNGER GAMES' TRIVIA

### Bull & Bear

431 N. Wells St. 312-527-5973  
Reserve a table for one of two sessions where your knowledge of the popular series could net you a \$200 cash prize. Calm your nerves with \$5 Catching Fire Rumchata-Fireball shots and stave off your own hunger with snacks including Nightlock Cobbler with ginger-blueberry compote and shortbread cookies (\$8). 6 and 8:30 p.m. No cover. RSVP: [bullbearbar.com/trivia](http://bullbearbar.com/trivia).

# DO

## THE SECOND CITY THAT NEVER SLEEPS: 24 HOUR

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Join Fred Armisen ("Portlandia," "SNL"), Bonnie Prince Billy, Bob Mould (Husker Du) and others at this insomniac's paradise featuring 24 straight hours of music and improv comedy which also includes live-streamed appearances from St. Vincent,

Jeff Tweedy and more. Proceeds benefit Letters to Santa. 6 p.m. Tuesday-6 p.m. Wednesday. \$20. Schedule: [facebook.com/secondcity24hour](http://facebook.com/secondcity24hour).



St. Vincent  
GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTOS

## REDEYE TIP OF THE DAY

Donate an unwrapped toy at Laugh Factory (3175 N. Broadway) through Dec. 22 and receive four tickets to an upcoming show.

**i**  
A Chicago Tribune publication

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FDA wants proof  
that antibacterials  
work and aren't  
doing harm

# ASAFAER SOAP?



## Is triclosan in your products?

Although some companies have phased triclosan out of certain products, many still use the chemical, so if you are concerned:

- » Look for triclosan (or triclocarban) on the ingredient list of soaps, cosmetics, lotions, acne medicines, toothpastes and deodorants.
- » Be aware that plastic- and fabric-based products marketed with the label Microban or Biofresh may be made with triclosan.
- » Keep in mind that most alcohol-based hand sanitizers do not contain triclosan.

TRIBUNE

## Chicago Tribune

After decades of debate, questions may finally be answered about whether antibacterial soaps—used daily in homes, schools and elsewhere—are safe. It's an important issue because many health officials say the products offer no benefit over washing with regular soap and water.

The Food and Drug Administration on Monday proposed a rule that would force makers of antibacterial hand soaps and body washes to prove with clinical studies that their products are both safe to use and more effective than regular soap in preventing illness and keeping infections from spreading. If manufacturers can't prove their claim, the products need to be reformulated or relabeled, the FDA said.

"Due to consumers' extensive exposure to the ingredients in antibacterial soaps, we believe there should be a clearly demonstrated benefit from using antibacterial soap to balance any potential risk," said Janet Woodcock, director of the FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research.

Most hand sanitizers, such as Purell, aren't affected by the proposal because they contain mostly ethyl alcohol, which the FDA recognizes as generally safe and effective.

The move is part of the FDA's review of antibacterial active ingredients and an effort to stem overuse of germ-killing chemicals.

The soap industry defends antibacterials as safe and effective. But "there is currently no evidence that they are any more effective at preventing illness than washing with plain soap and water," the FDA said.

More troubling, data suggest that long-term exposure to certain active ingredients used in antibacterial products—triclosan in liquid soaps and triclocarban in bar soaps, for example—could lead to hormone imbalances and allow bacteria to mutate into harder-to-control strains.

The American Cleaning Institute, the lobbying group for the industry, cites two dozen studies that it said have shown the benefits of using antibacterial soap. "We are perplexed that the agency would suggest there is no evidence that antibacterial soaps are beneficial, as industry has long provided data and information about the safety and efficacy," the group said in a statement.

# Ventra deadline? Eh, not so much



## GOING PUBLIC

**Tracy Swartz**

✉ [tswartz@tribune.com](mailto:tswartz@tribune.com)  
✉ [@tracyswartz](https://twitter.com/tracyswartz)

Last Sunday was supposed to be the CTA's deadline to transition fully to Ventra, but the agency still continues to work out the kinks of its new fare payment system. One of the long-standing problems is the amount of time it takes for a bus reader to process a Ventra tap. The CTA said

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# WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

## SEEKING DIVERSITY IS SERIOUS BUSINESS ON CHICAGO'S IMPROV COMEDY SCENE

**Chicago Tribune**

Improv, that Chicago comedic staple, has been in the news recently for some of the wrong reasons. The debate about the lack of diversity on the famed sketch comedy show "Saturday Night Live" prompted the broader question of whether a lack of diversity at the top starts at the bottom.

A look at the improv scene in Chicago, the first stop for many aspiring sketch comedy actors, turned up only one real diversity program, at The Second City. And those leading Chicago's improv and comedy scene say that although women and minorities have been breaking down barriers in the past several years, finding enough minorities for their main stages remains a challenge.

"We always have to do more," said Andrew Alexander, CEO and executive producer at Second City. "I would say the bench is fairly thin. It's not like we have a lot to draw on."

Over the past 20 years, Alexander has invested millions of dollars in Second City's diversity program, he said, ever since the 1992 race riots in L.A. when he watched an all-white cast fail to adequately address the historic event on-stage. The diversity program includes workshops at inner-city schools, casts that feature minority talent and scholarships at The Second City training center. A dedicated budget of about \$200,000 per year includes the salary for full-time Outreach and Diversity coordinator Dionna Griffin-Irons.

Alexander said he also has focused on diversity among Second City companies and resident stages. The minimum, he said, is 20 percent for the main stages, 15 percent in the touring companies and 10 percent on the cruise line, where many start out their Second City performing careers after doing time in classes.

Mick Napier, founder and artistic director of The Annoyance Theatre in Chicago, said he doesn't have the financial resources to invest in minority talent as much as he would like, but due to the cross-pollination in Chicago's comedy scene, Alexander's efforts have trickled down to his stages.

"If they're serious about it, then they're going to land in our classes, on our stage in some sort of context," Napier said of students in Second City's outreach program.

Twenty years ago, Napier directed Second City's first balanced-gender cast by adding future "SNL" star Tina Fey. Until that time, casts were made up of four men and two women.

"During the late '80s and '90s, a lot more women were drawn to it, and it was starting to be ludicrous that it wasn't balanced that way," Napier said. "People started to think about it,



and I started to think about it."

Women now make up 40 percent of the 3,500 students who enroll in classes each term at Second City, Alexander said, largely due to the success of comedy giants such as Fey and Amy Poehler. Napier also has noticed a promising trend related to race—the inclusion of stand-up comedians at venues traditionally reserved for improv troupes.

"Ten years ago there was no way in hell you would have a stand-up show in an improv house or vice versa," Napier said. "That is a conduit for diversity as well."

Most famous minority comedians achieved

their fame through stand-up comedy rather than improv, said improv actor Jordan Black, an Illinois native who said it took him years to find enough African-American talent to start an all-black troupe at The Groundlings in L.A. called "The Black Version."

"Culturally, black performers don't see it as a way to break into the business," Black said. "You don't know it exists until you have some black sketch performers and black improv performers break through on a wider scale."

Besides cultural barriers, there also are institutional barriers to comedic diversity. The Second City is in Old Town, a mostly white,

"I can't tell you how much it has changed the attitude and perspectives of a lot of the black comedians on the South Side."

**—Mary Lindsey, owner of Jokes and Notes, on recruiting efforts**

affluent area of Chicago. "We are historically a North Side, white institution," Alexander said.

He tried to change that by planning a Second City branch in Bronzeville in 2002, when he received an \$850,000 grant from the city. That was around the time that Mary Lindsey began plans to open Jokes and Notes, which would have been across the street from the Second City site, she said. Lindsey said she was disappointed when Second City's plans fell through because of conflicting visions between Second City and the local alderman. (Alexander said the plans became too "ambitious.")





The all-minority cast  
of The Second City's  
"Urban Twist"  
BRIAN CASSELLA/TRIBUNE

**WHERE TO WATCH**  
Here is the Chicago  
"it" list for comedic  
diversity. [TRIBUNE](#)

### Urban Twist

**When:** 9 p.m. Saturdays  
(show starts in April)  
**Where:** Donny's Skybox  
Theatre, 1608 N. Wells St.  
**Tickets:** \$13; [secondcitydiversity.com](#)

### Stir-Friday Night!

**When:** Times vary  
**Where:** Venues vary  
**Tickets:** prices vary;  
[stirfridaynight.org](#)

### The Armando Diaz Experience

**When:** 8:30 p.m. Mondays  
**Where:** Del Close Theater  
at iO, 3541 N. Clark St.  
**Tickets:** \$12; [ioimprov.com/chicago](#)

### 3Peat

**When:** 10:30 p.m.  
Wednesdays  
**Where:** Del Close Theater  
at iO, 3541 N. Clark St.  
**Tickets:** \$5; [ioimprov.com](#)

### Jokes and Notes

**When:** Wednesdays  
through Saturdays  
**Where:** 4641 S. King Drive.  
**Tickets:** Times, prices vary;  
[jokesandnotes.com](#)



Tina Fey with  
'SNL' cast members

### THE 'SNL' STORM

"Saturday Night Live" scheduled two audition showcases recently in search of an African-American female cast member with more expected, a person with knowledge of the situation told TheWrap. A media storm erupted earlier this season when cast member Jay Pharoah was quoted expressing what appeared to be disappointment in the lack of a black female in the cast. "They need to pay attention," Pharoah told website theGrio. [THEWRAP.COM](#)

"If we had had Second City across the street with sketch and workshops, it would have taken the game to a whole other level," said Lindsey, who opened her club at 47th Street and South King Drive in 2006.

Despite her disappointment, Lindsey has been encouraged by Griffin-Irons' recruiting efforts on the South Side, along with the recruiting efforts of Kendra Carter, director of NBC/Universal Talent Diversity Initiatives.

"I can't tell you how much it has changed the attitude and perspectives of a lot of the black comedians on the South Side," Lindsey said. "For a long time they just felt so isolated, like, 'OK, no one wants to deal with us but black comics, black people.'"

Charna Halpern, artistic director of The iO, the second-most prominent theater in Chicago comedy, which has, like Second City, fed famous comedians into TV, said she has noticed a lack of minority talent on some levels. This year, she had only one black woman in each of her auditions in L.A. and Chicago.

"I have some coming up for future auditions," she said. "They just need to get wet behind the ears."

Halpern does not keep quotas or look specific-

ally for minority actors, she said, saying she simply looks for the "best players."

"We will teach people if they have the desire to be the best," Halpern said. She has seen the improv world become more diverse in the past 10 years, which she attributes to the growing popularity of the art form with audiences, as well as casting agents who increasingly want their actors to have improv experience.

"It used to be very underground when I started 30 years ago," Halpern said. "We couldn't get audiences either. Now we do. Our audiences are also diverse now, so that helps when people watch and say, 'Hey I can do this,'" Halpern said. "I remember a time when I first started that I had no women. Then that changed. Years later, I had no minorities. That has greatly changed."

As he progressed in his training, iO associate artistic director Jason Chin learned to take control of the scene and turn it to his advantage.

"I've learned over the years if something racist happens toward me that might affect me, I address it in a comedic fashion," Chin said. "I think students particularly like to see that—'Oh, I see how he handled that. Now I know how to handle that.' You don't have to be what someone pins you as."



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chicago

# Judge: Terminally ill gays can marry now

## Chicago Tribune

A federal judge on Monday ordered the Cook County Clerk's office to start issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples who can establish that a life-threatening illness prevents them from waiting until the new marriage law takes effect in June.

The ruling comes less than three weeks after a lesbian couple became the first same-sex couple to legally wed in Illinois when a judge ordered the county to grant them a marriage license because one partner has terminal cancer.

The ruling means that future couples in similar situations will not have to go to court to win an early license.

"When you have a terminal illness, every day is significant," said Camilla Taylor, marriage project director for Lambda Legal



When you have a terminal illness, every day is significant."

—Camilla Taylor,  
marriage project  
director for  
Lambda Legal

director for Lambda Legal, which filed the suit with the ACLU of Illinois on behalf of two same-sex couples. "While no one should be told that they cannot marry for a period of months, for couples who are dealing with a life-threatening medical condition, the delay in implementing Illinois' marriage law could turn out to be an absolute bar to being married at all."

The class-action suit was brought by couples who sought to marry in Cook County, so the ruling applies only to license applications before the Cook County clerk's office, Taylor said.

The judge gave an oral order to issue the two licenses last week. A subsequent written order, signed Monday, made the decision apply to all people who are in a similar medical situation.

## Earlier demand for winter donations

As below-average temperatures chill Chicago this month, nonprofits in the area have noticed an earlier need for winter weather help.

Anticipation of larger heating bills this month could strain pocketbooks, and nonprofits have noticed more requests for winter gear, such as hats and gloves, for the working poor and unemployed. Teachers at Chicago Commons' Guadalupe Family Center in Pilsen have noticed some kids wearing two sweaters under a light jacket.

"The needs started earlier ... Usually the weather changes at the end of December," said Esmeralda Arroyo, director of the family center. "So I think families are not ready."

To keep up with recent demand, Catholic Charities is looking for more coat, hat and glove donations, said Sheila Haennicke, assistant director of communications for Catholic



Gloria Cruz talks about coping with the weather on a budget on Monday. JOSE M. OSORIO/Tribune

Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

"In the last week alone, more than 75 people have visited the agency's downtown headquarters requesting winter coats," Haennicke said Friday. TRIBUNE

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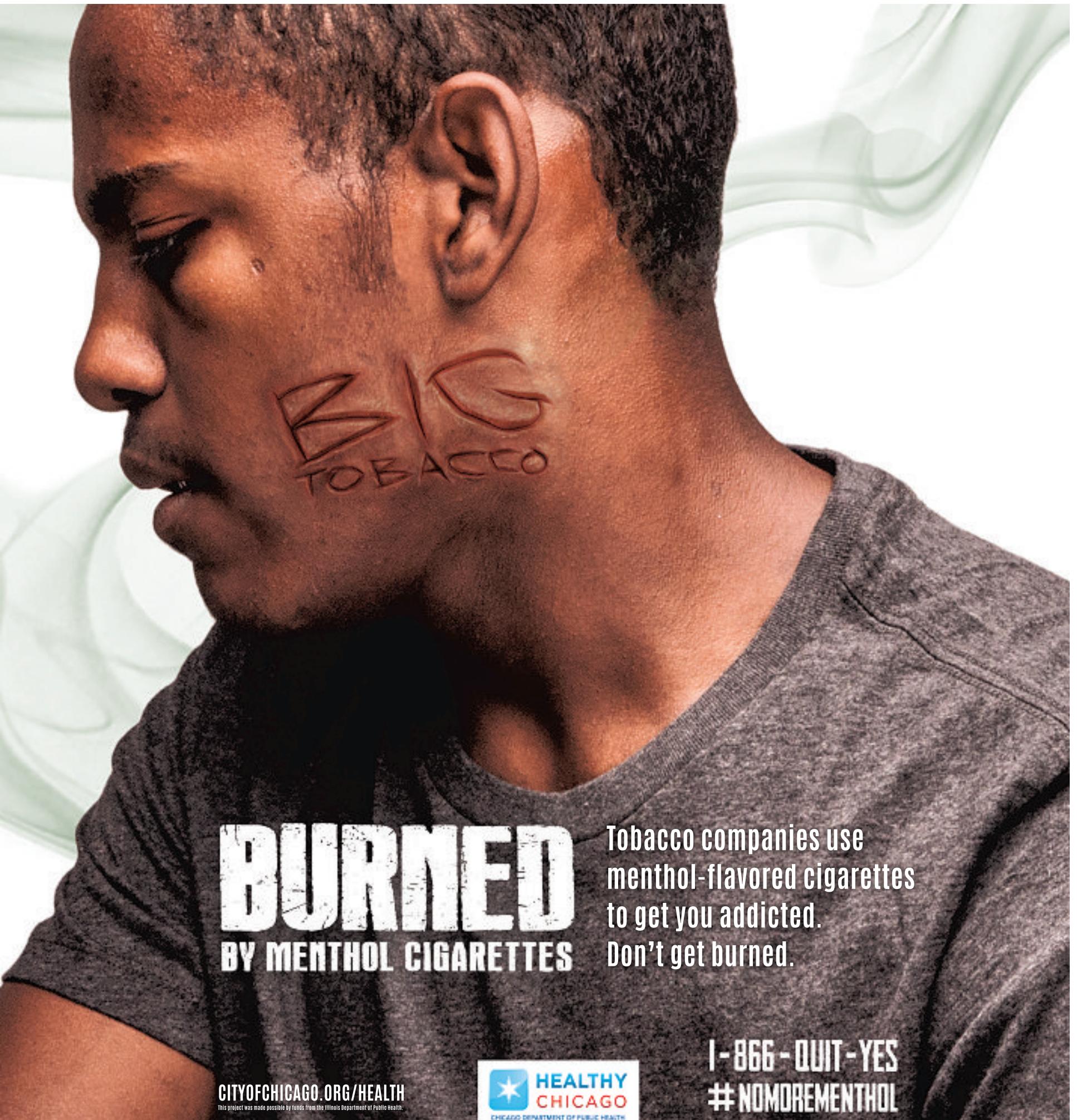
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associated with cat allergy. If you are between the ages of 12 and 65 and have experienced cat allergy symptoms for at least two years you may qualify.

Qualified participants will receive all study related exams and study medication at no cost. Compensation for time and travel may be available.

To learn more, please contact:

**ChicagoENT**  
**773-289-1823**

[www.thecatallergystudy.com](http://www.thecatallergystudy.com)

## nation | world

FROM NEWS SERVICES

Edward Snowden  
GETTY IMAGES FILE



## Judge rules against phone surveillance

**WASHINGTON** The U.S. government's gathering of Americans' phone records is likely unlawful, a judge ruled Monday, raising "serious doubts" about the value of the National Security Agency's so-called metadata counter terrorism program.

"I cannot imagine a more 'indiscriminate' and 'arbitrary invasion' than this systematic and high-tech collection and retention of personal data on virtually every single citizen," U.S. District Judge Richard Leon, appointed by Republican President George W. Bush in 2002, wrote in a 68-page ruling.

The U.S. Department of Justice said it was reviewing the ruling in a case brought by Larry Klayman, a conservative lawyer, and Charles Strange, described in court documents as the father of a cryptologist technician for the NSA who was killed in Afghanistan in 2011. The judge ordered the government to stop collecting data about the two plaintiffs, who were Verizon Communications customers. Verizon declined comment.

"We believe the program is constitutional as previous judges have found," Department of Justice spokesman Andrew Ames said in a statement.

Leon suspended enforcement of his injunction against the program "in light of the significant national security interests at stake in this case and the novelty of the constitutional issues" pending an expected appeal by the government. A U.S. official said an appeal was likely.

Leon expressed skepticism of the program's value, writing that the government could not cite a single instance in which the bulk data actually stopped an imminent attack.

"I have serious doubts about the efficacy of the metadata collection program as a means of conducting time-sensitive investigations in cases involving imminent threats of terrorism," he wrote.

That is important, he added, because for the program to be constitutional, the government must show its effectiveness outweighs privacy interests.

Former NSA contractor Edward Snowden revealed the massive phone record collection to U.S. and British media in June. Documents provided by Snowden showed that a U.S. surveillance court had secretly approved the collection of millions of raw daily phone records in America, such as the length of calls and the numbers that are dialed.

### Violence scares at Harvard, UMass

Harvard University was partially evacuated Monday after school officials sent out an alert about explosives on campus, but no bombs were found. A building at the University of Massachusetts in Boston was evacuated after officials received a report of somebody with a gun. Police quickly deemed the threat false.

### U.N. seeks record \$6.5 billion for Syria

The United Nations appealed for a record \$6.5 billion for Syria and its neighbors on Monday to help 16 million people, many of them hungry or homeless victims of a conflict that has lasted 33 months. The Syrian appeal accounted for half of an overall funding plan of \$12.9 billion for 2014.

### Minister refuses to give up credentials

A United Methodist minister who was suspended for officiating at his son's gay marriage said Monday he will not voluntarily surrender his religious credentials. The Rev. Frank Schaefer of Lebanon, Pa., was convicted of violating church doctrine when he officiated at his son's nuptials in 2007 in Massachusetts.

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# sports



Marshall Kent RMU ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT PHOTO

# CHICAGO'S KINGPIN

**Put something in front of bowler Marshall Kent, and he'll knock it down**

By Courtney Jacquin | REDEYE

Marshall Kent is making a name for himself on the bowling scene. A senior at Robert Morris University, he was one of only two nonprofessional bowlers who competed in the World Series of Bowling. (You'll have to check out Sunday's TV coverage to see how he did.)

The 21-year-old Kent, who won a pair of bowler of the year awards last season, talked to RedEye about his achievements, bouncing back mid-tournament and his favorite bowling spots in Chicago.

@COURTNEYJACQUIN

**Tell us how you got into bowling.**

Well, my parents actually bought a bowling center [in Yakima, Wash.], before I was born, so I was basically born into the bowling business.

**What's the path to becoming a professional bowler?**

Basically it started as a dream as a little kid, watching bowling every Sunday on TV, and then kind of started getting into the sport a little more seriously. I started to bowl in some tournaments back home, some little junior tournaments to earn scholarship money to pay for school. I earned a scholarship here at Robert Morris University, and that's what I'd say was the catalyst to getting everything started. I've bowled here collegiately for three years, and I've used what I've learned through college bowling, the coaching I've had, and applied it to my own personal experiences and tournaments. ... Hopefully by the end of July I should have my professional card and officially be a professional bowler.

**Where was your mind at going into the World Series of Bowling?**

I felt really good about myself going into it because I had

**WORLD SERIES OF BOWLING**

2:30 p.m. Sunday, ESPN

Robert Morris student Marshall Kent is one of only two nonprofessional bowlers in the tournament, along with former NFL star Terrell Owens.

just finished fourth at the U.S. Open, the biggest stage in bowling, so I was really confident going into it. The first couple days were pretty rough actually, so it was kind of a struggle. But then I got back on my feet in the last two days and had pretty good days—the fourth day I lead the tournament going into the TV show.

**What was it like being one of the only nonprofessional bowlers at the tournament?**

It wasn't really intimidating. It was actually pretty cool because during the tournament I was bowling and I look left and I see all of these guys I've seen on TV as I was growing up watching bowling. These professionals I've known for years and years and years, they were right there—they're human all of a sudden. Every little mistake they make, I see it. Every little success they have, I see it. To see it in person and to compete against them is a pretty incredible feeling.

**What are your plans once you graduate?**

For the next few years I'd like to go out, travel the world and go bowling. The Professional Bowling Association just adapted this World Bowling Tour where they have events in Thailand, the Middle East and all over Europe, so I want to go and travel for a couple years, see the world and have some fun.

**What's your favorite bowling alley in Chicago?**

I don't know if I really have a favorite but I like a lot of them that I've been to. We practice at Diversey River Bowling Center; it's been like a home away from home for me. There are a couple Lucky Strike bowling centers around Chicago, and those are always really nice, high-end bowling centers. Not really practice centers, but you can go and have a good time.

**HUGS!**

Careful if you embrace Jay Cutler anytime before the Bears season ends. We hear he's a bit fragile.



**Pat  
Tomasulo**  
@pettomasulo  
**WGN Morning  
sports anchor**



**Scott  
Bolahan**  
[@scottbolahan](mailto:@scottbolahan)  
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Angi  
Taylor  
[angitaylor@kiss1035.com](mailto:angitaylor@kiss1035.com)  
103.5 KISS-FM

<b>1</b>	What was Josh McCown thinking when he hugged Jay Cutler after the Bears won Sunday?	"If I squeeze him hard enough, maybe I can break a rib."	Like not watching porn.	"I know it was you, Fredo."	"Good job, Cutty. I couldn't have done it better myself. Well..."	"See, my advice worked: When in doubt, find Jeffery."
<b>2</b>	How can Jay Cutler win over teammates who might still doubt him?	INCOMPLETE end zone passes on the first drive of the game.	Trust falls.	Trust that Alshon will keep intercepting passes Cutler intended for Bears opponents.	By just staying healthy for a freakin' second. How's that for diminishing doubt?	Make sure he stops tossing the ball to the guys in the other color jerseys.
<b>3</b>	What will be Lance Briggs' status by the end of this week?	Single but looking.	In a relationship.	I wonder whatever happened to my Lamborghini. Send.	Time to devour some Philly Eagle-steak sandwiches!	Game time status: Probably. Grooming status: Probably best-kept beard on team.
<b>4</b>	Now that Corey Crawford has joined Twitter ...	... "[Bleeping] right Chicago!" is now trending.	... Autocorrect is going to get a ducking workout.	... we may finally get to know the man behind the mask.	... he should unprotect his tweets and let us in! Come on, Crow, block shots, not your fans!	... he's one more hockey player I won't be following on Twitter.
<b>5</b>	How's your favorite college basketball team doing this season?	The College of NJ Lions are 3-6, thanks for asking.	This might be the year DePaul makes the NIT!	The Morehouse College Maroon Tigers have just dropped in campus popularity right behind 4-H club.	I wouldn't know; 'tis the season for me to follow those chippy hunks on ice!	I didn't think college basketball started until January.

The image is a promotional advertisement for the Commitment Day 5K. On the left, there's a vertical orange banner with white text. At the top is a large stylized 'C'. Below it, the words 'COMMITMENT DAY 5K' are written in bold capital letters, followed by the tagline '=join the movement=' in a smaller font. In the center of the banner, the text 'NEW YEAR'S DAY' is at the top, followed by '5K' in a large, bold, sans-serif font, then 'WALK OR RUN' below it, and finally the date '1.1.14' at the bottom. At the bottom of the banner, it says 'PRESENTED BY' and 'LIFETIME' with the tagline 'THE HEALTHY WAY OF LIFE COMPANY'. Below the banner, there's a white banner with the text 'REGISTER TODAY AT COMMITMENTDAY.COM' and '#COMMITMENTDAY • LIKE US ON FACEBOOK'. On the right side of the image, there's a photograph of a 5K race in progress. Many people of various ages are running on a paved path. In the background, there are orange banners with the 'LIFETIME' logo and the text 'JOIN THE COMMITMENT DAY 5K'. The setting appears to be an urban park, likely Grant Park in Chicago, as indicated by the text at the bottom right.

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# BEARS IN FIRST!

Justin Tucker is royalty in Chicago! The Baltimore kicker hit a 61-yard field goal in the final minute to give the Ravens an 18-16 win Monday at Detroit. With two games left in the regular season, the Bears (8-6) are now alone in first place and a game ahead of the Lions (7-7) in the NFC North. The Bears now control their destiny. Win at Philadelphia on Sunday and at home Dec. 29 against Green Bay and they're in the playoffs. Bear down, Chicago!



Justin Tucker  
US PRESSWIRE

**Dome, sweet dome**  
The Chicago Fire on Monday said it plans to convert a vacant North Side factory and the surrounding land into an indoor soccer center.

The Chicago Fire Soccer Center is expected to be completed next summer. The facility, which will include a dome, will sit on 4.7 acres at 3626 N. Talman Ave.

Two regulation-size turf soccer fields and the first air-supported dome within Chicago's city limits are planned for the 140,000-square-foot center.

In addition to the Fire's uses, the team said the center will serve the surrounding community, neighboring schools, universities and recreational sports leagues. The development will include a 15,000-square-foot building, forecast for mixed-use field management offices, restaurant, retail and training.

## End of the Reed

Introducing: yet another new White Sox player you've probably never heard of. The team on Monday dealt closer Addison Reed to Arizona for third baseman Matt Davidson. The 22-year-old Davidson hit .280 with 17 home runs and 75 RBIs in Triple-A last season. The Sox gave up Reed, 24, who had 40 saves last year.

THE FINISH LINE

» Northwestern 86, Mississippi Valley St. 64   » Bears CB Charles Tillman officially out for the rest of the season

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**music**

# Is Kanye still Chicago?



**Ernest Wilkins**

[erwilkins@tribune.com](mailto:erwilkins@tribune.com)  
[@ernestwilkins](https://twitter.com/ernestwilkins)

"Never think that I'm not from Chicago for one second."

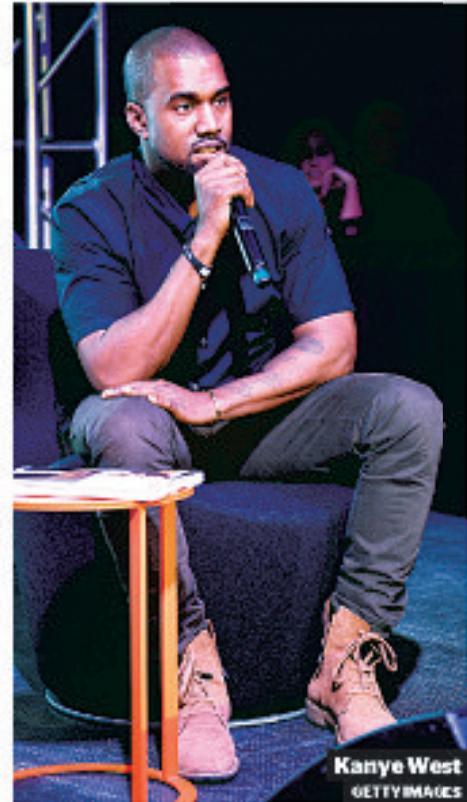
In the six months since Kanye West released his sixth album, "Yeezus," he has, of course, said a lot. Yet the above affirmation, said rather pointedly to Jimmy Kimmel in October, stands out among all of the rapper's other quotables. Why? Because a growing movement of locals have shunned the Chicago-raised icon, and the question remains: Is Kanye still synonymous with Chicago?

Some would argue no—he doesn't possess a full-time residence here, rarely comes to town and flaunts an image-conscious outlook far more associated with L.A. than the Midwest. I would argue that his ability to challenge the status quo, however frustratingly he chooses to do it, embodies the Chicago mentality through and through. Kanye didn't have to do things like give rising local artists King Land Chief Keef center-stage appearances on his record, but he did.

Speaking of those two, let's re-address that quote. In context, Kanye is referring to his frustration with paparazzi and anyone who talks smack to him. It's meant as a threat. See, in this case, Kanye is from CHICAGO. The one you see on your nightly news. The one with the body counts. The one you should be scared of. That type of correlation does this city no favors, and you would think someone from here would try and downplay that kind of thing.

Then you remember who's talking, roll your eyes and move on.

Kanye's outbursts, while informative and, dare I say, completely accurate when you get past the histrionics, have not endeared him to anyone. His frank ability to claim, for example, that Kim Kardashian has more influence on pop culture than the First Lady has irritated and shocked. He's losing the support of the people who rode for him post-Taylor Swift-gate and post-George W. Bush-related statements. People who had his back no longer do. When his delayed "Yeezus" tour comes to town Tuesday, expect to see both an outpouring of support and enough backlash to make you wonder if probably the biggest rapper and possibly the biggest celebrity this city has ever produced has lost his way with his tribe.



Kanye West  
GETTY IMAGES

## KANYE WEST IN CONCERT

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, 8 p.m. Wednesday  
at United Center. \$39.50-\$199.50.

See, folks around here know about the corruption and classism that Kanye spent his summer and fall ranting against. They also know that actions like selling \$150 T-shirts (through his line with A.P.C.) kind of paint him as a hypocrite. Can you still claim to stand up for the common man while you're wearing \$3,000 sneakers?

It's telling that this backlash comes on the heels of his most visceral release to date. So many months later, plenty of us don't know what to do with "Yeezus." Songs like "On Sight" don't sound like anything else being released by mainstream artists of Kanye's stature. Critics and folks who write about music all day notwithstanding, a lot of people were turned off by it.

Nevertheless, Kanye's quote isn't inaccurate. He's a product of hundreds of years of complex racial and social issues, emboldened by intellectuals but still confrontational enough to undercut somebody if he feels disrespected. He's a house-music-loving, rap-appreciating ball of hyperbole who always shows you a good time even when you get annoyed with him. If that isn't Chicago, then what is?



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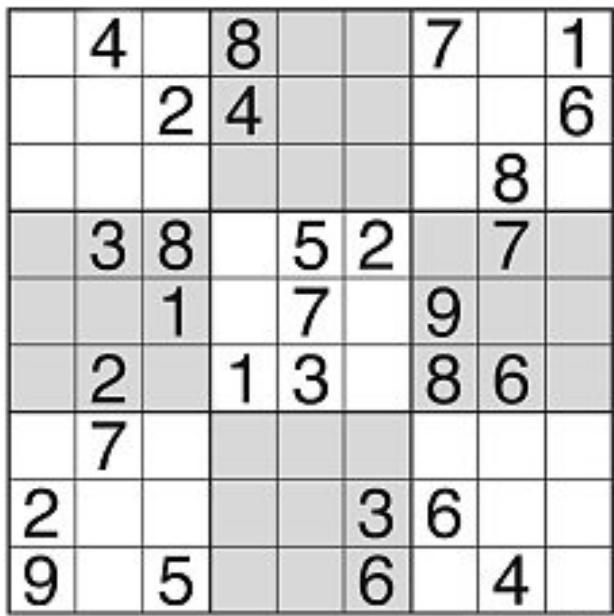
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# whoville Show & tell



## Ham

"Ham! Who doesn't adore ham? And when Sherri Shepherd says 'ham' on '30 Rock'? Kills me every time."



## Lobster dog

"SQUEEEEEEEEEE. OK but seriously, there's a butter bucket. How is this not the cutest thing ever?"



## Tulips

"Goddddd can it be spring already? Such perfection—wishing for a trip to Paris."



## Connie Britton

"I really hate when people say I have the most perfect hair, because OBVIOUSLY if I had perfect hair, it would look like THIS. What a goddess."



## Ryan takes a selfie

"Hubs is so generous with his time. Look at him smashing his face into that commoner."



## Jay Leno

"Mmmm, Leno, you luscious piece of ass. What I wouldn't give to climb inside that leather jacket and take you for a spin."



## Marchesa gown

"Um, seriously, I want to get unmarried and then remarried to Hubs just so I can wear this fantastic creation."



## Ryan with a snail

"Hubs, I can't wait for our kids to watch 'Turbo' while I take a nap and accidentally spill my wine."



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3rd Row Seat! Power Everything, Multi Zone A/C, MP3, Steering Wheel Audio Controls, Child Safety Locks, Stability Control, Remote Keyless Entry, Tire Pressure Monitoring Display & More! #141007

\$6 /DAY<sup>+</sup>



New 2014 Jeep  
**CHEROKEE**

Advanced Airbags, ALB, Keyless Entry W/ Panic Alarm, Cruise, Tire Pressure Monitoring, Touch Screen, Integrated Voice Command with Bluetooth, Audio Input, Power Windows/Doors/Seats & More! #141209

\$8 /DAY<sup>+</sup>



New 2013 Dodge  
**CHARGER SE**

Power EveryDual Zone A/C, Aluminum Wheels, Head Airbag, AM/FM/CD/MP3/CD, Cruise, Traction Control, Keyless Start, Remote Trunk Release, Child Safety Locks, Steering Wheel Controls & More! #134873

\$8 /DAY<sup>+</sup>



New 2013 Ram  
**1500 QUAD CAB**

20 / 40 Bench Seat, HEMI, Trailer Tow with 4-Pin Connector Wiring, 7 Pin Wiring Harness, Advanced Multistage Front Airbags, Locking Tailgate, A/C, Media Hub, Pwr Doors/Locks & More! #135696

\$9 /DAY<sup>+</sup>



New 2013 Chrysler  
**300**

Power Everything, Folding 2nd & 3rd Row Seats, Outside Temp, 12v Outlets, On-wheel Audio Control, Aux Input, CD Player, Advanced Multistage Front Airbags, SiriusXM Satellite Radio & More! #135922

\$10 /DAY<sup>+</sup>



New 2013 Dodge  
**DURANGO SXT 4X4**

Power Everything, Folding 2nd & 3rd Row Seats, Outside Temp, 12v Outlets, On-wheel Audio Control, Aux Input, CD Player, Advanced Multistage Front Airbags, SiriusXM Satellite Radio & More! #134911

\$11 /DAY<sup>+</sup>



New 2014 Jeep  
**GRAND CHEROKEE**

Laredo, Pwr Everything, CD, Head Airbag, iPod/MP3, Flex Fuel, Rear Spoiler, Keyless Entry, Tire Pressure Monitor with Warning Lamp, Electronic Vehicle Information Center, Power Heated Exterior Mirrors & More! #141073

\$11 /DAY<sup>+</sup>

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**BIG** FINISH 2013

# red hot

## Better call Netflix

Good news for fans of Netflix binge-watching: The company has signed a contract with AMC that will make the complete first season of "Breaking Bad" spinoff "Better Call Saul" available for streaming the day after the finale airs, [variety.com](#) reports. There's still no set start date for the hotly anticipated series, but you can bet the network won't pull a Beyoncé and just drop it in our laps.

### THE DIGIT

**828,773**

That's how many copies of "Beyoncé" were sold internationally in three days on iTunes, [ew.com](#) reports.

Apple reported the album has gone No. 1 in 104 countries, and is Beyoncé's fifth straight No. 1 album. Any questions about who's running the world?



## CATCH- 22

It was high time for a reminder that Channing Tatum is funny. The red-band trailer for "22 Jump Street" dropped Monday, and it finds Tatum and Jonah Hill back on the job as bumbling crime-fighters. Only this time, they're stationed on a college campus. We're taking bets for an over-under on how many bongs were harmed in the making of this film, which comes out June 13.



Channing Tatum (left)  
and Jonah Hill  
ALEX GARCIA/TRIBUNE FILE

## WANT MORE DIRT?

Oh, we've got dirt. Get the scoop on your favorite musicians, actors and reality TVers all day long at [redeyechicago.com](#).

**THE QUOTE**  
It was so fun wearing a fat rock for a few years."

—Miley Cyrus, to Barbara Walters, on her now-ended engagement to Liam Hemsworth. During the commercial break, did Miley ask Babs about her collection of fat rocks?



## Speaking of fat rocks ...

The Rock's bank account is looking pretty hefty these days. Forbes released its annual list of top-grossing actors, and Dwayne Johnson pulled off the No. 1 spot above Robert Downey Jr. Steve Carell, Vin Diesel and Sandra Bullock rounded out the Top 5, which features a pretty impressive percentage of bald dudes this year.

## All dogs go to heaven?

Not if "Family Guy's" fans have anything to say about it. The animated series resurrected Brian the dog on Sunday night, three weeks after killing him in a car crash. Infuriated fans swarmed the Internet after Brian's untimely death, and it appears their complaints worked. "And thus endeth our warm, fuzzy holiday lesson: Never take those you love for granted, for they can be gone in a flash," series creator Seth MacFarlane (and voice of Brian) tweeted Sunday.

## HOT DATE MARCH 18

That's when Lorde will play Chicago on her North American tour, her publicist announced Monday. Tickets to the Aragon show go on sale Friday.

